



# SHOT TALK

San Antonio Immunization Program Newsletter - August 2019

<https://www.sanantonio.gov/Health/News/Newsletter>



Facebook.com/SAMetroHealth



Twitter.com/SAMetroHealth

## In This Issue...

<i>EVI News</i>	<i>p.2</i>
<i>IOEP, Back-to-School, IZSA</i>	<i>p.3</i>
<i>CE Webinars, ImmTrac2</i>	<i>p.4</i>
<i>TVFC/ASN</i>	<i>p.5</i>
<i>HPV Vaccine in the UK</i>	<i>p.6</i>
<i>Back-to-School Events</i>	<i>p.7</i>
<i>Metro Health Clinics</i>	<i>p.8</i>

## Happy National Immunization Awareness Month!

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. Communities across the country use this month each year to raise awareness about the important role vaccines play in preventing serious, sometimes deadly, diseases across the lifespan. Prevention is protection.

Metro Health wants to remind you and our community about the importance of staying up-to-date with vaccines, even after childhood. Vaccines play an important role in protecting against diseases like the flu, measles and pneumonia. NIAM is a great time to promote vaccines and help increase immunization rates to ensure our community is protected and prevent transmission of vaccine-preventable diseases by lessening and eliminating disease outbreaks.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) develops immunization materials our partners can use for outreach and education efforts during NIAM and throughout the year. You can find CDC promotional and educational resources for every audience, from pregnant women to young children, and adolescents to adults, on [CDC's website](#) for immunization partners. There you'll find dozens of flyers, informational sheets, videos, and other resources to help educate your patients, community partners, family and friends about the significance of immunizations for any age group. Take a moment to look over the tools and resources at the link above, and help us celebrate and educate throughout the month of August!

The unifying rallying themes to this year's National Immunization Awareness Month are #ivax2protect and #ImmunizeSA.

You can find our more information and stay tuned for NIAM promotion by also following our Metro Health social media pages at: <https://www.facebook.com/SAMetroHealth> and <https://twitter.com/SAMetroHealth>.

national  
**IMMUNIZATION**  
awareness month



## EVI News & Notes

We would like to take a moment to remind all of our providers and Electronic Vaccine Inventory (EVI) staff about some important tips to help make your program more successful. These guidelines will save time and effort when maintaining the correct stock levels of required vaccines.

### Vaccine Shipping Hours

- In order for sites to receive vaccine shipments, appropriate staff must be on-site and available at least one day a week **other than Monday** and for **at least four consecutive hours** during the hours of **8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
- Each site establishes the hours available to accept vaccine shipments and is at liberty to make necessary changes to shipping hours, before placing a vaccine order in EVI.
- The vaccine will be shipped so that it will arrive when staff is available to accept the vaccine.
- The staff at the TVFC-enrolled site **may not change** available hours in EVI **once an order is placed**.
- The signing clinician is responsible for incomplete or erroneous information entered into EVI, which can result in vaccine loss.

### Vaccines Received Warm or Questionable

- Vaccines must always be stored properly, even if viability is questionable. Vaccines that are received warm, damaged, ice/gel packs missing and/or melted require immediate contact to Metro Health's Vaccine Management team.
- Vaccine should be separated in **proper storage** until viability can be determined.

**If vaccine viability is questionable upon receipt, follow the steps below:**

1. Separate the questionable vaccine in a vaccine quarantine bag and place the questionable vaccines in the refrigerator or freezer until viability can be determined. Do not write on the vaccine itself.
2. Contact Metro Health's Vaccine Management team on the same day the vaccine arrived.
3. Staff may be directed to contact the distributor(s) to determine the vaccine's viability.
4. Inform the Metro Health Vaccine Management team of the determination of the viability of the vaccine.
5. Vaccine must be kept quarantined until instructions for replacement, reporting loss, etc. are received.

For more information on the EVI guidelines, or if your staff would like additional EVI training, please contact Anna Ledezma by emailing [anna.ledezma@sanantonio.gov](mailto:anna.ledezma@sanantonio.gov) or call (210) 207-4308.





## Immunization Outreach, Education, and Partnerships Updates

Immunization Outreach, Education, and Partnerships (IOEP) has been busy this month. With our new grant, IOEP's focus has been shifting to become more centered on education. We have been working to make new connections with local colleges, other immunization providers, and helping build future partnerships. Developing new educational presentations, and ensuring the most current information is included, has been the emphasis of our work. These presentations can be provided to parenting groups, provider office staff, community stakeholder meetings, or to any group interested in learning more about vaccinations. If you would like IOEP to facilitate a presentation about immunizations for your group or organization, to request our participation in an outreach event, or to inquire about immunization clinics, please email Sarah Williams at [sarah.williams@sanantonio.gov](mailto:sarah.williams@sanantonio.gov) or call 210-207-6917.

**The IOEP team is available for targeted outreach events and presentations for your clients, colleagues, and patients on any topic related to immunization.**



## Back-to-School 2019 Immunization Events

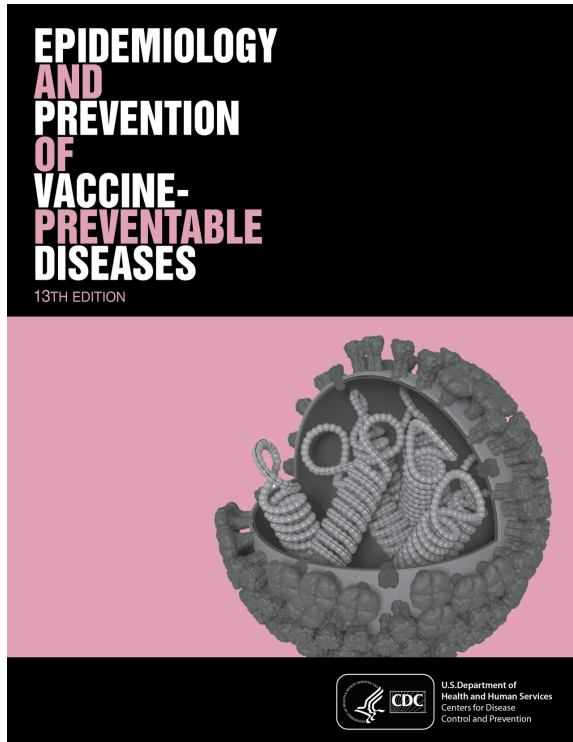
Back-to-school is here! Is your child ready for school? School-age children from preschoolers to college students need vaccines. Metro Health wants to remind you to make sure you add vaccines to your child's back-to-school supply list! Please see Page 7 for a Back-to-School event flyer listing all participating City Council Back-to-School immunization events throughout the city. The Metro Health Immunization Program will be participating in District 1 and District 7 Back-to-School events.

For more information on Back-to-School Vaccination Checklist, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/features/catchupimmunizations/index.html>

## Immunize San Antonio Coalition Updates

The next Immunize San Antonio (IZSA) Coalition meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4th, from 1-2:30 pm at the Texas Diabetes Institute at 701 S. Zarzamora Street. If you are interested in being part of the IZSA Coalition, please contact Vanessa Rodriguez at [vanessa.rodriguez@sanantonio.gov](mailto:vanessa.rodriguez@sanantonio.gov) or (210) 207-2869.

## Continuing Education Opportunities



As mentioned in last month's newsletter, the CDC's 2019 Pink Book Webinar Series is well underway. This is one of the biggest and best free, online Continuing Education (CE) opportunities of the year for providers, staff, and anyone whose work involves immunizations.

Although the series has begun, all webinars are archived and will be available for the rest of the calendar year on the CDC website. You still have time to register for free online, which will ensure you receive notifications via email before each week's webinar begins.

To set up your webinar registration, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/webinar-epv/index.html> and click the "Register Now" button. If you have any questions or would like to find more free CE opportunities, please contact Jared Dugger at [jared.dugger@sanantonio.gov](mailto:jared.dugger@sanantonio.gov) or 210-207-2866.

If you or a colleague would like to find online webinars or CEU opportunities on any specific topic(s), please contact Jared Dugger at [jared.dugger@sanantonio.gov](mailto:jared.dugger@sanantonio.gov) or (210) 207-2866.

## The Texas Immunization Registry known as ImmTrac2 replaces the San Antonio Immunization Repository System

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, the San Antonio Immunization Repository System (SAIRS) was shut down on June 30th, 2019. This change now requires individuals to opt-in to ImmTrac2 in order for records to transfer from SAIRS. Additionally, a signed consent form from the parent/ guardian is required for minors. Whether consented in to ImmTrac2 as a minor or not, ALL individuals 18 years of age and older must sign an adult consent form for their record to continue to be kept in ImmTrac2. ImmTrac2 consent forms can be downloaded from <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/immtrac/>.

ImmTrac2 is a free service of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) which provides a safe way to electronically keep your immunization records in one place. Only authorized health care providers in Texas are allowed to access your immunization history. Your immunization record is an important tool to assist you in the future. Colleges, universities, vocational schools, and a number of jobs require students or employees to have up-to-date immunizations.

If you have ImmTrac2 questions, you can contact the Metro Health Immunization Program or DSHS with the contact information provided below.

### Metro Health Immunization Program

San Antonio Metro Health ImmTrac2 Team Help Desk: (210) 207-5071

Gregory Stewart, Management Analyst: (210) 207-1384

Maria Lozoria, Health Program Specialist: (210) 207-2083

Lourdes Arroyo, Health Program Specialist: (210) 207-2089

Tony Vicencio, Administrative Assistant: (210) 207-8245

### DSHS

ImmTrac2 Customer Support: 1(800) 348-9158

ImmTrac2 Customer Support Email: [ImmTrac2@DSHS.Texas.Gov](mailto:ImmTrac2@DSHS.Texas.Gov)

## TVFC Transition to IQIP

As the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program transitions from the AFIX quality improvement model to the new Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP) model, there will be new quality improvement processes for providers that will be implemented over the coming months. For example, Metro Health will conduct two site visits throughout the year.

The overall purpose of IQIP is to promote and support the implementation of provider-level quality improvement strategies. The two main strategies Metro Health will be supporting in the coming year are:

- Scheduling the next immunization visit before the patient leaves the provider site and helping providers leverage the immunization information system (IIS) functionality to improve immunization practice.
- To assist and support health care providers by identifying opportunities to improve vaccine uptake and determining options for improving immunization delivery practices.

The IQIP transition will involve several other new processes over the coming weeks. We ask that you be patient and let us know if any staff at your site have questions or issues concerning IQIP during this time.

Additionally, we would like to remind all TVFC providers that even though dates are not yet confirmed, TVFC Provider Re-Enrollment will begin in October, with mandatory training sessions to be completed in September. Plan ahead, and watch your email and the DSHS website for updates to ensure a smooth transition into the 2019-2020 enrollment period.

If you have any questions concerning the TVFC or IQIP programs, please contact Lynna Agado at [lynna.agado@sanantonio.gov](mailto:lynna.agado@sanantonio.gov) or 210-207-3965. You can also send staff updates, temp logs, and general questions to [sanantoniottvfcasn@sanantonio.gov](mailto:sanantoniottvfcasn@sanantonio.gov).

For more information on the AFIX to IQIP transition, click the photo below or visit:

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/Immunization-News/TVFC-ASN-Digest/CDC-s-New-IQIP-Program-Replaces-AFIX/>





## British Boys Will Receive HPV Vaccine to Prevent Cancer

By Lianne Kolirin | CNN | July 9, 2019

London (CNN) - Boys aged 12 and 13 will be offered the HPV vaccine in all British schools from September, in a move health officials say will prevent thousands of cancer cases. The jab would protect against a range of cancers caused by the human papilloma virus (HPV) including throat, penile and anal strains of the disease. The National Health Service (NHS) will offer the vaccine free to boys in Year Eight of secondary schools across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland -- 11 years after the measure was introduced for girls.

In total, the HPV vaccine program could prevent over 100,000 cases of cancer by 2058, officials said. HPV is a group of 150 related viruses that can be transmitted through any form of sexual contact, whether kissing or intercourse. In most cases, the human body will get rid of it naturally, but certain high-risk types can develop into things like genital warts and cancers.

About 5% of all cancers worldwide are linked to the HPV virus, including cervical cancer and some affecting the head and neck. In the United States, high-risk HPV infections cause about 3% of all cancers in women and 2% in men, according to the National Cancer Institute. To date 10 million doses of HPV vaccine have been given to young women in Britain, meaning that more than eight out of ten women aged 15 to 24 have been vaccinated. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "almost every person who is sexually active will get HPV at some time in their life if they don't get the HPV vaccine."

The vaccine is a mimic of the virus particle, but when administered into someone's muscle, it creates many more antibodies than a natural infection would, according to John Doorbar, professor of viral pathogenesis at the University of Cambridge. Public Health England found that since the jab was introduced infections of some types of HPV (HPV 16/18) in 16 to 21 year old women have reduced by 86 percent in England. A Scottish study also showed that the vaccine has reduced pre-cancerous cervical disease in women by up to 71 per cent. Besides protecting boys, the new development will also help reduce the overall number of cervical cancers in women, through a process known as "herd immunity." The government body cited research by the University of Warwick which estimated that, as a whole, the HPV vaccine programme could prevent up to 64,138 cervical cancers and 49,649 other cancers by 2058 - 50 years after it was first introduced for girls. That would include some 30,000 cancer cases in males.

Dr. Mary Ramsay, head of immunisation at Public Health England (PHE), encouraged parents of all eligible children to "take up the offer for this potentially life-saving vaccine" without delay. In a statement, she added: "This universal programme offers us the opportunity to make HPV-related diseases a thing of the past and build on the success of the girls' programme. Offering the vaccine to boys will not only protect them but will also prevent more cases of HPV-related cancers in girls and reduce the overall burden of these cancers in both men and women in the future."

It is important not to delay the vaccine as it can become less effective as adolescents grow older, according to Dr. Ramsay. A second dose is administered between six and 24 months after the initial jab. Extensive research of the vaccine by leading health bodies worldwide shows that it offers protection for at least a decade, although experts say it could last for much longer and may even be lifelong, according to Public Health England.

The USA is one of the few other countries to offer the vaccine to boys. Last month the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, known as ACIP, voted unanimously to recommend HPV vaccines for both boys and girls and men and women until age 26. Previously it recommended that teen girls and young women who had not been adequately vaccinated receive the vaccine up to 26, but the recommendation for teen boys and young men only went up to 21.

Prof Arne Akbar, president of the British Society for Immunology, said in reaction to the news: "The extension of the HPV vaccine to boys will build on the proven success of the girls' program to protect boys from HPV infections that can cause a variety of cancers including those of the anus, mouth and throat. The government now needs to work with the NHS and local authorities to ensure that we maintain efforts to actively communicate the important health benefits of this vaccine to parents and adolescents. We encourage parents of eligible boys and girls to take up the offer and protect future generations against these preventable diseases with the HPV vaccine."

(Note: According to the National Health Service for the UK, Gardasil-4, which protects against four cancer causing strains of HPV, is the only HPV vaccine currently in use the UK. Gardasil-9, which protects against nine HPV strains associated with cancer, is the only HPV vaccine used in the U.S.)

Source: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine>

Full article: CNN - <https://www.cnn.com/2019/07/09/health/hpv-vaccine-boys-scli-gbr-intl/index.html>



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT  
IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM**

**Bring these items to each immunization visit:**

- Photo ID and Parent/Guardian authorization
- Child's current insurance card (Medicaid/CHIP)
- All immunization records (foreign documents must be translated)
- Letter from school or nurse (if applicable)

**EASTSIDE CLINIC**

**Walk-Ins Welcome**

Monday - Friday: 8am - 3pm  
210 N. Mel Walters Way (formerly 210 N. Rio Grande)  
San Antonio, TX 78202  
(210) 207-8894



**FRANK GARRETT CENTER**

**Appointments Only**

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am - 3pm  
1226 NW 18th Street San Antonio, TX 78207



\*We do not accept private insurance. Medicaid is accepted. We ONLY accept Community First CHIP (no other type of CHIP is accepted).

\*\*Immunization Records can only be obtained at the Eastside Clinic.

# 2019 Back-to-School Immunization Events

**Saturday, August 3**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 1 - ROBERTO C. TREVIÑO

**Back-to-School Event**  
701 Santa Monica St  
Edison High School  
9am - 1pm



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

**Saturday, August 3**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 3 - SHIRLEY GONZALES

**Back-to-School Event**  
200 N. Park Blvd.  
Collins Library  
10am - 1pm



UT Health  
San Antonio

**Saturday, August 3**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 4 - ADRIANA ROCHA GARCIA

**Back-to-School Event**  
McAuliffe Middle School  
9390 SW Loop 410  
9am - 12pm



University  
Health System

**Saturday, August 3**

**Immunization Event**  
CentroMed  
Freeman Coliseum  
Expo Hall B  
9am - 1pm



CommuniCare  
HEALTH CENTERS  
For All. For Life. Para Todos. Por Vida.



**Saturday, August 10**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 3 - REBECCA J. VIAGRAN

**Back-to-School Event**  
7615 Kennedy Hill Drive  
UIW Medical Campus  
Brooks  
9am - 1pm



**Saturday, August 10**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 10 - CLAYTON PERRY

**Back-to-School Event**  
Blessed Angels  
Community Center  
14094 Nacodoches Rd  
9am - 12pm



UT Health  
San Antonio

**Saturday, August 17**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 7 - ANA E. SANDOVAL

**Back-to-School Event**  
Garza Community Center  
1450 Mira Vista  
9am - 12pm



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

**Saturday, August 17**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 4 - ADRIANA ROCHA GARCIA

**Back-to-School Event**  
Beto Guerra Clinic  
5439 Ray Ellison Blvd  
8am - 11am



**Saturday, August 31**



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 6 - MELISSA CABELLO HAYIDA

**Back-to-School Event**  
1240 Pinn RD  
Meadow Cliff Rec Center  
9am - 11am



**UIW Nursing - Wellness Center | 2547 E. Commerce, Suite 300**

**Starting August 3rd: Monday - Friday, 9am - 1pm**

**UIW DOES NOT accept credit cards!**



Go online to [www.HealthyUexpress.com](http://www.HealthyUexpress.com)  
to schedule an appointment.



University  
Health System

For Mobile Clinic appointments,  
please call (210) 358-7020

**CentroMed**

For an appointment at any CentroMed location, please  
call (210) 922-7000.

For an appointment at any CommuniCare location,  
call (210) 233-7000.



CommuniCare  
HEALTH CENTERS

For All. For Life. Para Todos. Por Vida.



## CITY OF SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

### IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

**SanAntonio.gov/Immunizations**  
**#ImmunizeSA**

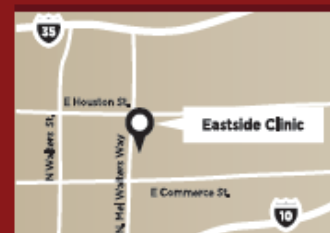
CLINIC PHONE:  
**Questions & Appointments**  
**(210)207-8894**



### AS OF JULY 2, 2018 OUR NEW IMMUNIZATION CLINIC LOCATIONS

#### **EASTSIDE CLINIC** **Walk-Ins Welcome**

Monday - Friday: 8am - 3pm  
210 N. Mel Waiters Way (formerly 210 N. Rio Grande)  
San Antonio, TX 78202



#### **FRANK GARRETT CENTER** **Appointments Only**

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am - 3pm  
1226 NW 18th Street San Antonio, TX 78207



\*We do not accept private insurance. Medicaid is accepted. We ONLY accept Community First CHIP  
(no other type of CHIP is accepted).

\*\*Immunization Records can only be obtained at the Eastside Clinic.